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REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE

Rural District of South Molton

FOR THE YEAR 1960.





Rural District of South Molton

Telephone No.
South Molton 17

Public Health Department,
8, East Street,
SOUTH MOLTON.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1960.

E. WILLIAMS
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

L. W. EVES
M.A.P.H.I.,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

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REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the
South Molton Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on
the Health and Sanitary Administration of the Rural District
of South Molton, for the year 1960.

Your Obedient Servant,

E. WILLIAMS

Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

The Staff of the Public Health Department consists of:—

Part-time Officers—

E. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

L. W. EVES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

G. E. MOGFORD, M.A.P.H.I.,

G. T. HILL, M.A.P.H.I.,

Additional Public Health Inspectors.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	117,432
Population (Registrar-General's Mid-Year Estimate) ...	8,780
Rateable Value (as at 1.4.1961)	£ 53,377
Product of a Penny Rate (Year 1960/61 Estimate) ...	£233
Number of Inhabited Houses (as at 1.4.1961)	2,789
Number of Corporation Houses	356
Extracts from Vital Statistics—	
Births: Comparability Factor	1.15
Deaths: „ „ 	0.93

VITAL STATISTICS

[illegible]

BIRTHS

During the year there were 114 Live Births, as compared with 116 in 1959.

Live Births—				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	55	53	108
Illegitimate	...	...	...	4	2	6
				<hr/> 59	<hr/> 55	<hr/> 114

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	12.98
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted by Area Comparability Factor)	...	...	...	14.92
Still-Births—				

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	0.22
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Total Live and Still Births	...	...	17.24

DEATHS

During the year there were 111 deaths, as compared with 113 in 1959.

	Males	Females	Total
	60	51	111
Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	12.64
Death Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted by Area Comparability Factor)	...	...	11.75

The following table gives Causes of Death:—

	M.	F.	Total
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	1	0	1
„ „ —Lung, Bronchus	3	1	4
„ „ —Breast	0	3	3
„ „ —Uterus	0	1	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	5	6	11
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	0	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	7	15	22
Coronary Disease, Angina	10	2	12
Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	1	3
Other Heart Disease	14	10	24
Other Circulatory Disease	1	0	1
Pneumonia	4	1	5
Bronchitis	0	3	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	2	1	3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	0	1
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	5	7	12
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	0	1
Suicide	2	0	2
Homicide and Operations of War	1	0	1
Total	60	51	111

Deaths occurred in the following age-groups:—

Under 1 year	1	45—64 years	21
1—4 years	1	65—74 years	29
5—14 years	0	75—84 years	43
15—24 years	0	85—94 years	13
25—44 years	3	95 +	0

Infant Mortality

During the year, 1 infant died under the age of 1 year.

					M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	0	0	0

Maternal Mortality

No deaths were attributable to childbirth during the year.

Cancer Deaths

There were 20 deaths due to Cancer during the year:—

					Males	Females	Total
Stomach	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Breast	...	...	...	...	0	3	3
Uterus	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
Other	...	...	...	...	5	6	11
					9	11	20

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year, arranged in the various age-groups.

AGE GROUPS	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Measles	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Tuberculosis		Whooping Cough	TOTAL
						Pulm.	Non-Pulm.		
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 +	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
2 +	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
3 +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
4 +	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2
5 — 9	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
10 — 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 — 24	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
25 — 44	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
45 — 64	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
65 +	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	3	13

Distribution of Infectious Diseases into Areas

	Dysentery	Erysipelas	Measles	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	T.B.		Whooping Cough
						P.	N.P.	
Chulmleigh	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Kingsnympton	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
North Molton	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Rose Ash	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
West Anstey	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-
West Buckland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Witheridge	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
	1	1	3	1	2	1	1	3

Tuberculosis

New cases notified during the year = 2, viz.

1 Pulmonary (Female, age 57)

1 Non-Pulm. (Female, age 20)

T.B. Cases on Register, 31st December, 1960.

Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
13	19	32	8	9	17

Food Poisoning

No cases of Food Poisoning were reported during the year.

HOUSING

As a result of the Ministry's request that Local Authorities should review the housing situation within their area and submit a further list of unfit houses to be demolished in the next 5 years, a further 20 dwellings were submitted as being unfit for habitation.

During the year, 4 bungalow-type dwellings were erected at Bishop's Nympton, and 8 dwellings were erected by private enterprise within the Rural District.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, SECTION 47

No cases were dealt with under this Act during 1960.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Tuberculosis

Hawley Hospital, situated in the Borough of Barnstaple, has 28 beds.

Maternity Cases

There is a ward of 14 beds with a fully qualified staff at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, available for maternity cases of doubt and difficulty.

Three beds are also set aside for maternity cases in the South Molton and District Cottage Hospital.

The General Practitioners' Maternity Unit of 13 beds is at "Highfield," Victoria Road, Barnstaple.

Isolation of Infectious Diseases

Cases are sent either to Whipton Hospital, near Exeter, or to the Kingsley Hospital which is situated just outside the Borough of Bideford, and is well equipped in every way for the treatment of Infectious Diseases; there are 20 beds available in cubicles for Infectious cases.

Smallpox

The Smallpox Hospital, to which cases of Smallpox will be sent, is at Upton Pine. Telephone to Isolation Hospital, Whipton, Exeter 67158, and this is the same number for the ambulance.

General

The South Molton and District Cottage Hospital, situated in the Borough of South Molton, serves this area. There are 9 beds for general and maternity cases. The North Devon Infirmary, situated in Barnstaple, also serves the area and provides Specialists' Services.

In South Molton there are also chronic sick patients at Beech House, but no further admissions are being made.

Clinics and Treatment Centres

CHEST CLINICS.—These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, in the Glossop Annexe. Below is a table giving the days and times of attendance.

Tuesday	9 a.m.—1 p.m.	}	Clinic and X-Ray Examinations
	2 p.m.—4 p.m.		
Thursday	9 a.m.—1 p.m.	}	A.P. Refills
	2 p.m.—4 p.m.		
Friday	9 a.m.—1 p.m.	}	
	2 p.m.—4 p.m.		

V.D. CLINICS.—These are held at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, in the Glossop Annexe. Times and days are as below for the sessions:—

FEMALES—Monday 4.00 p.m. Thursday 4.30 p.m.

MALES— Monday 5.15 p.m. Thursday 5.45 p.m.

Professional Nursing in the Homes

There are 3 District Nurses in the area who act as Midwives.

Laboratory Facilities

The main Laboratory is situated at Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter, and Dr. Moore is the Director. It is completely installed with the necessary equipment for bacteriological examinations of all kinds. Its diagnostic and consultative services are available for all patients. Bacteriological examinations of water and milk are also carried out. The service is extremely valuable and is widely used by the medical practitioners.

There is also a Pathological Laboratory at 75 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, with a full-time Pathologist and Technical Staff to meet the needs of the whole North Devon area. There is a Blood Bank at this Laboratory.

Infant Welfare Centre

Held Thursday afternoons between 2 and 4.30 p.m. at 99 East Street, South Molton.

Ante Natal Clinic

Held on the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 99 East Street.

Ambulance Services

Under Section 27 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the Local Health Authority (i.e. the Devon County Council) is responsible for the provision of an Ambulance Service, and the Devon Health Committee have arranged for this to be provided through the agency of the St. John Ambulance Association. Under the scheme, an ambulance station has been established at South Molton. The districts served are South Molton Borough and South Molton Rural District. The Hospital Car Service, also under the Devon County Council, is available on application to the Hospital, by the doctor concerned, and the Ambulance Service is empowered to hire cars in urgent cases when an ambulance is not necessary.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR TO THE SOUTH MOLTON RURAL AREA

For the Year ended 31st December, 1960.

8 EAST STREET,
SOUTH MOLTON.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report relating to work carried out during 1960.

During the year 2,349 visits and inspections were made including:—

PUBLIC HEALTH—

Byelaws	99
Camping Sites	9
Disinfections and Disinfestations ...	3
Drains inspected and tested	146
General	75
Nuisances	49
Refuse Collection and Disposal ...	7
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	251
Water Supplies	55
Water Samples	120
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACTS	78
FOOD AND DRUGS—General	4
Meat and Food Inspection ...	487
FACTORIES—With Power	2
Without Power	1
HOUSING—Slum Clearance	188
Council Houses in Course of Erection, Housing Sites and Council House Supervision, etc.	339
Improvement Grants	170
PETROLEUM REGULATIONS	24
INTERVIEWS—Owners, Builders, etc.	67
MISCELLANEOUS AND MEETINGS	141
PUBLIC CONVENIENCES	34

2,349

WATER

PARISH	No. of Houses supplied from Public Mains	Estimated Population so served	No. of Houses supplied by Standpipes on Public Mains	Estimated Population so served
Bishopsnympton ...	102	336	2	8
Buckland West ...	1	3	—	—
Burrington ...	51	163	—	—
Charles (Brayford)	34	117	—	—
Chittlehamholt ...	47	163	—	—
Chittlehampton ...	144	470	—	—
Chulmleigh ...	280	967	—	—
Filleigh ...	8	27	—	—
Georgenympton ...	30	106	—	—
Kingsnympton ...	72	244	1	3
Mariansleigh ...	52	179	—	—
Meshaw ...	15	51	—	—
North Molton ...	202	687	23	83
Queensnympton ...	4	14	—	—
Rackenford ...	46	157	—	—
Romansleigh ...	18	60	—	—
Rose Ash ...	9	30	—	—
Satterleigh and Warkleigh ...	12	42	—	—
Witheridge ...	189	649	19	68
Worlington East ...	53	175	—	—
Cheldon ...	1	4	—	—

98 Samples of Private Supplies were taken with the results as shown :—

	Chemical	Bacteriological
Satisfactory ...	1	33
Unsatisfactory ...	—	64

22 Bacteriological Samples were taken of Public Supplies with the following results :—

Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
22	—

Where the Private Water Supplies were found to be unsatisfactory, informal action was taken to have the matters remedied or an alternative source found, in many cases, in conjunction with the Drainage and Water Supplies Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

At Chulmleigh, the new sewage ejector station was brought into use thus completing the sewage scheme. It was found necessary to prepare further proposals for dealing with excess surface water and a scheme was in hand at the end of the year.

The preparation of sewage schemes for Georgenympton and Kingsnympton were in hand.

FOOD AND DRUGS

Regular visits were paid to the premises in which food is handled and sold and the standard of cleanliness was generally satisfactory. No prosecutions were made under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There are four licensed Slaughterhouses in the District, and regular killing and inspection has taken place at all of them.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	796	12	2548	618	Nil
Number inspected	796	12	2548	618	Nil
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	Nil	16	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	171	Nil	58	31	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tubercu- losis and cysticerci	21.73%	Nil	2.90%	5.02%	N.A.
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	Nil	Nil	33	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.13%	Nil	Nil	5.50%	N.A.
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	3	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS INSPECTION

It will be seen from the preceding Table that 100% meat inspection was carried out, involving 433 visits. It was necessary to condemn 18 cwts. 3 qtrs. 1 lb. of carcase meat and 1 ton 1 cwt. 2 qtrs. 19 lbs. of offal.

ICE CREAM

Regular inspection of retail premises were made. The total number of premises registered at the end of the year was 23, all selling pre-packed ice cream only.

DAIRIES

The dairies within the district were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 to 1959

No action was necessary under the above-mentioned Acts during the year.

L. W. EVES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.



